



Insight

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INSCOM drives on

by Command Sgt. Maj.
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It's a great time to be working at INSCOM. Even though we have said goodbye to one commander and welcomed another, the U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command's mission and focus remain the same. We are actively involved in fight the Global War on Terrorism and our Soldiers and civilian workforce worldwide are working tireless hours to meet mission.

It is a testimony to the INSCOM workforce that personnel changes, whether at the major command or the company level – have little to no effect on the sustaining INSCOM's values and meeting mission requirements. That speaks volumes to the intense mission focus, capabilities, and dedication of our personnel.

As we celebrate this Labor Day weekend, many within our INSCOM family will pause and spend some richly deserved time with loved ones. For many others now deployed and in harms way, this won't be possible. As we reflect on this Federal holiday

take time to remember those who are not with us and those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice for our country. I believe that INSCOM's most important resource remains its valued workforce.

Since the beginning of our nation, the efforts of American workers – to include the military and civil servants – have made it possible for the United States to rise to heights unimagined before our nation's founding. Labor Day is a tribute to those who built the strength, prosperity and wellbeing of our country from sweat, muscle, and spilt blood. Like our nation, INSCOM derives its strength from the hard work of its Soldiers, civilians and contractors, who continue to sacrifice for the good, just and right.

Our command remains operationally engaged in a global war. We owe it to our Army and our nation to maintain and improve our intelligence gathering and analysis capabilities. We must plan for the future so that our country remains ahead of its adversaries. We must also be good stewards of the resources given us – the greatest of



DA photo

these being our people.

This Labor Day, remember and honor the esprit-de-corps and dedication of INSCOM work force that have made our prestigious past and our exciting future possible. The future looks bright for INSCOM and through hard work the conditions are right for major advances for the Intelligence Corps. But, those advances are only possible if we continue the tradition of our forefathers: the full commitment of our full abilities to accomplish the job at hand.

Be safe this holiday weekend. Take care of yourselves, your families and your friends. Happy Labor Day and God Bless America.



photo by Brian Murphy

MIRC ready for activation

Brig. Gen. Gregory Schumacher, MIRC commander, is looking forward to the activation ceremony, Sept. 10.

The Military Intelligence Readiness Command will be formally activated during a ceremony at the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center, Alexandria, Va., Sept. 10. The ceremony will take place during the MIRC Senior Leaders' and Spouses' Conference.

Maj. Gen. Collis Phillips, the Army Reserve's deputy chief, will host the ceremony. The MIRC is the force provider of Army Reserve Military Intelligence Soldiers and is the focal point for all requirements, coordination and issues.

Col. Dorothy Perkins, chief of manpower and reserve affairs, European Command, envisions the MIRC as "a command that completely

manages Army Reserve MI force — specifically, recruiting and training Soldiers to do their jobs, making units ready to deploy, and creating a force structure to allow Soldiers to grow, mature, be promoted and assume higher level responsibilities."

"The MIRC can further influence the active component's ability to access Army Reserve MI units and skillfully integrate them into the fight," she said. "In doing so, the MIRC may foster a greater understanding among supported commands of Army Reserve MI unit composition, availability, capability, and specific methods of obtaining MI Soldiers from the Army Reserve."

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Army working to help New Orleans

VICKSBURG, Miss. (Army News Service) — Although the category-four winds and rains have dissipated, major flooding continues to be a problem in the New Orleans area and the Army Corps of Engineers is working to help.

One source of flooding was the Aug. 30 overtopping and subsequent breaching of the London Avenue Canal floodwall at 6100 Pratt Drive, New Orleans, Corps officials said. They said Corps personnel are continuing to evaluate information on the breaching and are developing plans to seal it off.

One element of this plan is to use up-to-3,000-pound sand bags on the 17th Street Canal. Army National Guard Chinook helicopters are expected to begin assisting in the operation soon, officials said.

Access to breach sites continues to hamper efforts to close them, officials said. Barges and cranes cannot be moved through the Industrial Canal due to motor vessels and other large debris blocking the canal. Vessels must go around and through the Gulf Inner-Coastal Waterway or the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet.

The Mississippi River is closed to vessel traffic from Southwest Pass to Natchez, MS. The Army National Guard, U.S. Army, U.S. Coast Guard, other federal and state authorities, and private contractors are all working alongside the Corps to bring in necessary materials, supplies and equipment to



photo by Photographer's Mate Airman Jeremy L. Grisham

A man carries a baby through the flooded streets of New Orleans, La., outside the cities Super Dome football stadium on Aug 31, 2005.

begin making inroads to the damage.

The Corps is working with two major contractors to determine the scope of unwatering services available to inundated areas.

The Corps of Engineers Motor Vessel "Kirby Responder" is surveying the Gulf Inner-Coastal Waterway from Pascagoula, Miss., toward New Orleans with U.S. Coast Guard members on board to help determine what can be navigated.

They will survey Baptiste Collette Aug. 31, officials said, weather permitting.

The survey vessel LaFourche is currently surveying the condition of the navigation channel from Baton Rouge to Southwest Pass.

Corps of Engineers motor vessels are also delivering barges with cranes and excavating equipment and critical recovery materials.

The Port Allen Lock re-opened Aug. 30 and remains on

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auxiliary power, officials said. Algiers Lock and Harvey Lock are operating.

The Industrial Canal Lock is operating on an emergency generator and officials said the lock is expected to be operational in the near future. The canal is blocked with vessels, loose barges and boats. All other Corps of Engineers waterway facilities are open for normal operations.

The Port Allen Lock has been designated as a staging area for the Federal Emergency Management Agency. In support of FEMA, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is contracting for:

- Emergency clearance of debris to enable reconnaissance and movement of emergency personnel and equipment.

- Temporary construction of emergency access routes, including damaged streets, roads, bridges, ports, waterways, airfields, and any other facilities necessary for passage of rescue personnel.

- Emergency restoration of critical public services and facilities including supplying adequate amounts of drinking water, temporary restoration of water supply systems and providing water for fire fighting.

- Emergency demolition or stabilization of damaged struc-

tures and facilities as designated by state or local governments.

- Immediate emergency supplies including ice and water.

- Emergency power generation at critical sites (hospitals, shelters, etc.)

- Temporary roofing and temporary housing.

- Technical assistance and damage assessment, including structural inspection of structures.

- Unwatering to assist the state of Louisiana by performing and or contracting to remove water from New Orleans and the greater metropolitan

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photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Kyle Niemi

Flooded neighborhoods in New Orleans can be seen as the Coast Guard conducts initial Hurricane Katrina damage assessment overflights Aug. 29.

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area.

While the Corps is coordinating public works and engineering activities under FEMA, it will also provide direct assistance under Flood Control and Coastal Emergency authorities, officials said.

Aerial reconnaissance of the region has been conducted. Corps ground reconnaissance teams have observed that most houses have major damage to their roofs and officials said they expect roofing to be a huge mission. Communications also continues to be a major issue, they said.

Corps teams forward in the area have been unable to contact all parish emergency officials and determine pump station conditions. They are currently contacting Levee Boards to determine local capabilities for assistance in filling breeches, evaluating the extent of damage, etc., and are coordinating with the Louisiana Emergency Operations Center, officials reported.

The Corps has also maintained close communication with the U.S. Geological Service regarding water stage data in Louisiana. Gage data

for Lake Pontchartrain indicates that the lake is slowly draining, officials said. Based on the present rate of fall observed for the last eight hours, they said the lake level should return to normal level in about 36 hours.

As recovery efforts continue to gather momentum, numerous U.S. Army Corps of Engineers personnel from across the nation are arriving in the region to help tackle the mission ahead.

Other military efforts in the area include:

- Defense Coordinating Officers and Defense Coordinating Elements, known as DCEs, are on site in Clanton, Ala., Baton Rouge, La., and Jackson, Miss., to liaison between U.S. Northern Command, FEMA and the Department of Defense.

- Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., Naval Air Station Meridian, Miss., Barksdale Air Force Base, La., Alexandria, La., and Ft. Polk, La., have been designated as federal operational staging areas to expedite the movement of relief supplies and emergency personnel to affected areas.

- U.S. Transportation Command is flying 8 swift water rescue teams from California to Lafayette, La.

These California-based teams provide about 14 personnel with vehicles and small rigid hulled boats who are highly trained and capable of rescuing stranded citizens from flooded areas.

- The hospital ship, USNS Comfort, is departing Baltimore to bring its medical assistance to the Gulf region. The Comfort should reach the area in seven days, officials said.

- Three Army helicopters from III Corps at Fort Hood, Texas, are in Baton Rouge and two more in Mississippi to assist with search and rescue and damage assessment.

- USNORTHCOM established Joint Task Force Katrina to be the military's on-scene commander in support of FEMA. Lt. Gen. Russel Honoré, commander of First Army at Fort Gillem, Ga., is the JTF commander. JTF-Katrina will be based out of Camp Shelby, Miss.

- JTF-Civil Support is providing a joint planning augmentation cell.

- U.S. Northern Command's Joint Operations Center is on 24-hour duty in Colorado Springs, Colo., to facilitate any additional requests for assistance that may come from FEMA representatives.

Lending a helping hand

Military Families and Deployed Soldiers affected by Hurricane Katrina are asked to call the National Guard Bureau Family Program Hotline at 1-888-777-7731 to let family members know of their whereabouts. Deployed Soldiers may call as well to request information. For more information, please visit their Web site at: www.guardfamily.org.

Additionally, those in need of counseling services as a result of the Hurricane can call Military OneSource at 1-800-342-9647.